

Position Statement on Restricted Use Medicines

Introduction

Mansfield & Ashfield and Newark & Sherwood CCGs promote the use of cost-effective, evidenced-based medicines through implementation of the Nottinghamshire Area Prescribing Committee policies and associated traffic light system and joint formulary.

The CCGs have agreed to take a stricter line on prescribing of medicines not recommended for local use. This agreement aims to stop the use of medicines which offer poor value to the NHS and medicines not endorsed by the APC.

Statement

Mansfield & Ashfield and Newark & Sherwood CCGs do NOT support prescribing of the following medicines:

- Medicines not included in the Nottinghamshire joint formulary.
- Medicines classified as Grey or Red under the Nottinghamshire APC Traffic Light system.
- Branded medicines where a lower cost generic is available.
- Medicines included on the local *target list** due to high cost and/or usage outside the recommended indications.

Prescribing standards

All new prescribing must adhere to the above policy statement.

Prescribing for existing patients will be reviewed in line with the CCG target list and brand list, which prioritises areas of high cost and volume.

Any prescriptions or requests for non-formulary and grey medicines will be referred back to the prescriber to request an alternative formulary product.

All requests for red classified medicines will be referred back to the specialist to arrange for ongoing prescribing.

Prescribers are expected to support CCG staff to implement prescribing change to ensure best use of NHS resources.

Exceptions

It is not anticipated that there will be many exceptions to the policy.

Where patients are already receiving treatment that is not recommended locally, these will be managed on a case by case basis to avoid patients being adversely affected by this policy.

If a prescriber wishes to present a case for special consideration, this can be made through the CCG special case panel. Patients dissatisfied with the CCG policy should be informed that a complaint can be made through the Patient Engagement Team.

* The Mid Nottinghamshire Target list is agreed locally to include medicines which are of local concern due to increasing costs and / or prescribing outside current recommendations e.g. nefopam, trazodone liquid